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AN

ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT

OF THE

FRENCH FRIGATE L'ARTEMISE,

TO THE

SANDWICH ISLANDS;

JULY, 1839.



Honolulu, Sand. Islands.

1839.

This pamphlet contains one and one-eighth sheets.

ACCOUNT OF THE

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WE the undersigned officers of the United States East India Squadron, having upon our arrival at this place, heard various rumors in relation and derogatory to, the American Mission at these islands, feel it to be due, not only to the missionaries themselves, but to the cause of truth and justice, that the most unqualified testimony should be given in the case; and do therefore order one thousand copies of the annexed article and correspondence to be printed for gratuitous distribution, as being the most effectual mode of settling this agitated question in the minds of an intelligent and liberal public.

Being most decidedly of opinion that the persons composing the Protestant mission of these islands are American citizens, and, as such, entitled to the protection which our Government has never withheld; and with unwavering confidence in the justice which has ever characterized it, we rest assured that any insult offered to this unoffending class will be promptly redressed.

It is readily admitted that there may be in the operation of this, as in all other systems in which fallible man has any agency, some objectionable peculiarities; still, as a system, it is deemed comparatively unexceptionable, and believed to have been pursued in strict accordance with the professed principles of the Society which it represents; and it would seem that the salutary influence exerted by the mission on the native population, ought to commend it to the con-

fidence and kind feelings of all interested in the dissemination of good principles.

GEO. A. MAGRUDER, *Lieutenant.*

ANDREW H. FOOT, *Lieutenant.*

JOHN W. TURK, *Lieutenant.*

THOMAS TURNER, *Lieutenant.*

JAS. S. PALMER, *Lieutenant.*

EDWD. R. THOMSON, *Lieutenant.*

AUGUSTUS H. KILTY, *Lieutenant.*

GEO. B. MINOR, *Lieutenant.*

JOHN HASLETT, *Surgeon of the Fleet.*

JOHN A. LOCKWOOD, *Surgeon.*

DANGERFIELD FAUNTLEROY, *Purser.*

FITCH W. TAYLOR, *Chaplain.*

ROBERT B. PEGRAM, *Master.*

JOSEPH BEALE, *Ast. Surgeon.*

J. HENSHAW BELCHER, *Prof. Math's.*

ALEXR. G. PENDLETON, *Prof. Math's.*

Honolulu, Oahu, Nov. 1st, 1839.

NOTE. The article alluded to in the Circular of the officers, viz: "An account of the transactions connected with the visit of the *l'Artemise*," etc., published in the October No. of the *Hawaiian Spectator*, has been reprinted with the correspondence, in pamphlet form, agreeable to the request of the officers; but as the demand has been greater than was anticipated, it has been thought advisable to reprint a few hundred copies of the correspondence alone, for the benefit of those who have been supplied with the original article from other sources.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON the 9th of October the United States East India Squadron, consisting of the Frigate Columbia, Commodore Read, commanding the squadron, and the Sloop of war John Adams, Captain Wyman, arrived at Honolulu from Macao, and sailed again for the United States on the 4th of November.

During the stay of the Squadron, the following correspondence took place:—

No. 1.

The Missionaries at Honolulu to Commodore Read.

Honolulu, October 16, 1839.

SIR:—Presuming that you are already aware of an attempt to deprive us of our rights as American citizens, and to make us liable to the ravages of war upon the nation for its alledged offences, as tho' we were a part of the native population of the Sandwich Islands; and considering ourselves as having been virtually proscribed as the enemies of France by the commanding officer of the French Frigate *l'Artemise* lately at this port, and charged with crimes in a manner likely to prejudice the public mind against us, both as citizens, and as the representatives of an intelligent, respectable and philanthropic chartered Society in the United States — the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions — we owe it to ourselves as citizens, to the community we represent, and to the government whose protection we claim, that we avail ourselves of the earliest opportunity to ask an investigation of the question, whether by any act or acts of ours, or by our instructions, or influence, or general course of life, since the visit of Capt. Jones, in the U. S. Sloop of war *Peacock* to these shores, we have lost our American citizenship, or forfeited the protection of the United States.

Taking it for granted, from your high station and the objects of your pursuits, that the interests of no class of American citizens whom you may meet in your course, if in any way exposed to suffer unjustly, can be willingly overlooked by you, we solicit your kind attention to this subject, and request that you will do us the favor to examine the above questions yourself, and, should you prefer it, associate with you a number of your commissioned of-

officers, or if that should seem to you objectionable, you will consent to appoint from your Squadron a committee or court of inquiry, consisting of Captain Wyman and as large a number of commissioned officers as can possibly be spared for that purpose.

While we maintain that we are not the authors or dictators of any of the penal laws of this country, or of the punishments inflicted on offenders; that we have not held and do not hold any civil office under this government, we are willing to submit the question whether the mission as a body, or as individuals, are in any way the authors or the blamable cause of the persecutions which have at different times existed here.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

H. BINGHAM,
LOWELL SMITH,
LEVI CHAMBERLAIN,
EDWIN LOCKE,

G. P. JUDD,
A. S. COOKE,
H. O. KNAPP,
H. DIMOND.

TO GEO. C. READ, Esq., Commanding
the U. S. East India Squadron, Honolulu Roads, Sandwich Islands.

No. 2.

The Missionaries to Commodore Read.

Honolulu, October 24th, 1839.

SIR:— On the 16th instant we had the honor of addressing to you a communication, in which we respectfully solicited an investigation of our conduct in reference to the charges against us contained in the Manifesto addressed to the Sandwich Island government by the commanding officer of the French Frigate l'Artemise.

Our object in presenting this petition was to obtain, if possible, a decision of the question whether we have lost our American citizenship or forfeited the protection of the United States, as implied in the Manifesto above referred to; or whether we have a right as peaceable citizens of the United States, to claim protection against hostilities from any foreign power with which our country is on terms of amity, should any such hereafter wage war upon this nation.

The investigation of this subject and decision of the question, we still deem of great importance, and we would earnestly renew our request for an investigation; nay, we beg leave respectfully to claim it as injured Americans; that the proceedings may be forwarded to our government and to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Should you already have made arrangements to sail soon, we would ask the indulgence of having the stay of the squadron prolonged for a few days on the ground of, and the reasons for our appeal; unless you are already prepared to assure the United States government that we are unjustly accused, and have been unjustly proscribed as the enemies of France.

For ourselves we know not what is the testimony on which we have been proscribed; nor can we for a moment believe there is any which is valid. Should it be evident to your mind that there is none, you will do us the fa-

vor to inform us in reply to our communications: and if there is any ground for the charges brought against us, which can be regarded as valid; you will not fail to perceive that our duty to ourselves and to the society which we represent requires that we should urge this subject upon your attention that it may receive a thorough investigation, while the squadron still remains at this port.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your obedient servants,

H. BINGHAM,
LEVI CHAMBERLAIN,
A. BISHOP,
S. N. CASTLE,

G. P. JUDD,
H. O. KNAPP,
A. S. COOKE,
L. SMITH.

To GEO. C. READ, Esq., Commanding
the U. S. East India Squadron, Hono-
lulu Roads, Sandwich Islands.

No 3.

The Missionaries to the United States Consul.

Honolulu, Oct 25, 1839.

SIR:—We have addressed to G. C. Read Esq., commanding the U. S. Squadron now lying in this port two communications under date of the 16th, and 24th inst, copies of which we hand you enclosed for your information, requesting that a court of inquiry may be appointed from officers of the squadron to investigate our conduct and ascertain whether we have in any way violated our neutrality towards the French nation as American citizens, and may properly be treated as the enemies of the French; and we have to request that you would use your influence to forward our suit in your official capacity, as we feel that, as American citizens, we have a right to demand at the hands of our country that justice which her humblest sons may claim.

When we reflect that a Frigate was sent to investigate and redress the wrongs inflicted on American citizens by the Malays in the island of Sumatra, we feel that the recent proscription entitles us to the privilege of asking the detention of the squadron, while a full and impartial investigation may take place; that our government may be furnished with all the facts and requisite information in relation to the proceedings. We feel solemnly bound to urge our request for an investigation, not only on our own account, but for the general benefit of our countrymen, of whatever calling they may be; for, if the principle be established by precedent or otherwise, that our proscription by the French commander was *legal* and *just*, then all security for our lives and the lives of our families, our property and the commercial interests of our country, is at an end.

We remain, very respectfully, Your Obt. Servts.

H. BINGHAM,
GERRIT P. JUDD,
LEVI CHAMBERLAIN,
A. S. COOKE,

S. N. CASTLE,
H. DIMOND,
H. O. KNAPP,
LOWELL SMITH.

To P. A. BRINSMADE, Esq.,
United States Consul;
Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.

No. 4.

The United States Consul to the King.

United States Consulate,
Sandwich Islands, Oct, 26, 1839. }

SIR:—As the opinion seems to be to some extent entertained that American citizens residing in the Sandwich Islands as missionaries under the patronage of an Incorporated Institution of the United States, have exerted a controlling influence upon the framers of the laws of this country, I have very respectfully to inquire, if they have ever had any voice in the passage of laws affecting the interests of other foreigners, and particularly whether they have ever had any thing to do in the measures adopted by your government for the prevention of the introduction of the Catholic religion into the country. And whether in the treatment which has been shown to any subject of the government of France, they have directly or indirectly recommended the course pursued by your government, and also whether in the attempts made under your authority to suppress the public exercise of the Roman Catholic religion on the part of your own subjects they have countenanced those attempts. If they have in any of these respects controled the action of your government, will you be pleased to inform me very explicitly in what manner and to what extent. An early reply will be a favor.

With the highest considerations,

I have the honor to be,

Your Majesty's most obt. servt.,

P. A. BRINSMADE,

United States Consul.

To His Majesty, KAMEHAMEHA III.,
King of the Sandwich Islands.

No. 5.

The King to the United States Consul.

TRANSLATION.

Kauwila House, present Residence of the }
King of Hawaii, Oct. 28, 1839. }

My Respects to you
the American Consul,

I have received your letter asking questions respecting the American missionaries, supposed by some to regulate the acts of my government under me; I, together with the chiefs under me, now clearly declare to you, that we do not see any thing in which your questions are applicable to the American missionaries. From the time the missionaries first arrived, they have asked liberty to dwell in these Islands. Communicating instruction in letters, and delivering the word of God has been their business.

They were hesitatingly permitted to remain by the chiefs of that time, because they were said to be about to take away the country. We exercised

forbearance however, and protected all the missionaries, and as they frequently arrived in this country, we permitted them to remain in this kingdom because they asked it, and when we saw the excellence of their labors, then some of the chiefs and people turned to them in order to be instructed in letters, for those things were in our opinion really true.

When the Priests of the Romish religion landed at these Islands, they did not first make known to us their desire to dwell on the islands, and also their business. There was not a clear understanding with this company of priests as there was with that; because they landed in the country secretly without Kaahumanu's hearing any thing about their remaining here.

When the number of the followers of the Romish religion became considerable, certain Captains of whaleships told Kaahumanu of the evil of this way, and thus Captain D . . . informed me of a great destruction in Britain in ancient time, and that his ancestors died in that slaughter, and he thought a like work would soon be done here. That was the company who informed us of the evil of the Romish religion, and also a certain French man of war, and a certain British man of war approved of what we did.

In as much as I do not know of the American missionaries having had any thing to do in my business with my chiefs, I have therefore inquired of them the chiefs, and they say, no, in the same manner as I now say, no, to you.

Some of them however have told me of having known certain things done by certain missionaries, viz., what Mr. Bingham said to Kaahumanu, "I have seen some people made to serve at hard labor on account of their having worshiped according to the Romish religion. Whose thought is that?" Kaahumanu said to him, "Mine." Then he that spake to her objected quickly, saying, "It is not proper for you to do thus, for you have no law that will apply." When he said that, then Kaahumanu immediately replied to him with great strength, "The law respecting Idolatry; for their worship is like that which we have forsaken." Mr. Clark also, and Mr. Chamberlain spoke to Kinau while Kaahumanu was yet alive, and objected to said conduct, and afterwards Dr. Judd. And at a certain time Mr. Bingham and Mr. Bishop disputed strongly with Kinau on account of the wrong of punishing those of the Romish religion.

And now in Kekauluohi's time Mr. Richards disputed strongly with Kekuanaoa, urging the entire abolition of that thing, and that kindness should be bestowed on them, that they might be pleased, giving them also an instructor to teach them the right way; and thus also he said to Kekauluohi and to me.

And afterwards when Mr. Bingham heard by Mr. Hooper that certain women were confined in irons at the fort he went immediately and made known to Kekuanaoa the wickedness of their confinement for that thing, and when Kekuanaoa heard it, he immediately sent a man, and afterwards went himself to the fort to set the prisoners free, for their confinement was not by order of the chiefs.

Should it be said by accusers that the American missionaries are the authors, of one law of the kingdom, the law respecting the sale of rum, or if not, that they have urged it strongly, I would say, a number of Captains of whaleships commenced that thing, thousands of my own people supported them, and when my chiefs saw that it was a good thing, they requested me to do according to the petition of that company, and when I saw that it was really an excellent thing, then I chose that as a rule of my kingdom.

But that thing which you speak to me of, that they act with us, or overrule our acts, we deny it, it is not so.

We think that perhaps these are their real crimes:

Their teaching us knowledge. Their living with us, and sometimes translating between us and foreigners. Their not taking the sword into their hand and saying to us with power, stop, punish not the worshipers in the Romish religion.

But, to stand at variance with, and to confine that company, they have never spoken like that since the time of Kaahumanu I. down to the time that the Romish priest was confined on board the Europa.

I think, perhaps these things are not clear to you; it would perhaps be proper, therefore, that the American missionaries should be examined before you and Commodore Read, and us also.

Thus I have written you with Respect,
(Signed) KAMEHAMEHA III.

No. 6.

Commodore Read to the Missionaries.

U. States Frigate Columbia, }
Honolulu Roads, Oahu, October 28th, 1839. }

GENTLEMEN:—The receipt of your letters of the 16th and 24th instant, is hereby acknowledged. An answer would have been returned at an earlier date had not numerous engagements and pressing business prevented.

I am deeply grieved to learn that on the late visit of the French Frigate *l'Artemise* the protection which was offered to all other American residents at this place, was refused to you on the ground of your being "enemies of France," and that you were considered by her commander as having identified yourselves with the native population, and therefore liable to the ravages of a war which he contemplated making upon the government of these islands.

I am also aware that you are what you announce yourselves to be, "the representatives of an intelligent, respectable and philanthropic chartered society in the United States," and that as such, and individually as citizens of the United States, you are entitled to my protection. But the acts of which you complain are of a date which has enabled you to make a representation of them to your government, and I am not of opinion that an investigation such as that you ask for could at this time be effected in a satisfactory manner to yourselves or to others who might desire it.

In the first place, the time I have proscribed for remaining here, does not admit of my undertaking such an inquiry. The risk attending my lying in these Roads beyond the last of the present month; the impossibility too of obtaining bread, of which we shall be in want before we can reach South America; and the circumstance that nearly all the officers who would be required to constitute such a Board, or Court as that you propose, being at present employed on court-martial duty, are farther and serious obstacles in the way of my yielding to your wishes.

If time and other circumstances would permit, a Board or Court might be appointed, but the power to summon witnesses would be wanting, and a refusal to attend would place me in an awkward position,

Moreover, I think that in the present state of excitement such a course would be more likely to increase than to allay it; and that though you might satisfy your friends at home of the charges being unfounded, you might not be able to accomplish that object here. That you have acted, or meant to act by any advice or by any opinions you may have given to the government as the "enemies of France," I cannot believe. It cannot be supposed by me that you entertain hostility towards a nation with which we are at peace, and towards the subjects of which it is the desire of our government and people to cherish a friendship.

This charge has no doubt grown out of the banishment by the government of these islands, of some Roman Catholic Priests, and the prosecution of some of the native proselytes to the Roman Catholic religion, measures, of which you have been considered the advisers. No proof, however, has been received by me that you were the authors of these acts, and from information received I have every reason to believe that the landing on these Islands of clergymen of the Roman catholic faith was opposed by others than those of the American mission, or of the country from which the mission comes, from a conscientious belief that it would promote the happiness of the people to have but one religious creed taught them.

But admitting that you did exercise the influence which your situation gave you to prevent other religious denominations coming here, you did no more than counsel, as is natural to man in such cases.

Some of you were the first missionaries who came hither to teach the gospel of the Old and New Testament. You obtained a favorable reception, and succeeded in the accomplishment of your object beyond expectation, having in a few years converted to the faith you preached, a greater proportion of the inhabitants than has been effected in any other quarter of the globe in the same time.

In a population of only 100,000 human beings, at which the inhabitants of this archipelago is estimated, it was thought that much mischief might grow out of a general permission to the clergy of all denominations to teach their peculiar tenets. On this ground, as I learn, the introduction of the Roman Catholic religion into these islands was opposed, and not because they happened to be natives of France who came to these shores for the same purpose.

If you ask me what steps you are to take to prove your innocence of what you are pleased to call charges, and do away if possible with the prejudice which may exist at Honolulu, my answer is, that you have already informed your government of all the circumstances of the case, and that, if our rulers deem an inquiry necessary they will no doubt direct it to be made.

In the mean time, I would recommend the utmost forbearance as the best and only mode of disarming your opponents of any resentments they may feel.

I shall make it my business to represent to the commander of the Pacific Squadron the peculiar situation in which you have been placed, and request that he may send a vessel of war to visit you from time to time. I shall also make known your apprehensions to my government, and I doubt not that every protection will be afforded you.

Accept my best wishes for your future peace and happiness and believe me, gentlemen,

With much respect, your obedient servant,
GEO. C. READ,
Commanding the U. States East India Squadron.

To Rev. Messrs. H. Bingham,
" " L. Smith,
" " A. Bishop,
" " L. Chamberlain,
" " G. P. Judd,
" " H. O. Knapp,
" " A. S. Cooke,
" " Edwin Locke,
" " H. Dimond,
" " S. N. Castle.

No 7.

The United States Consul to Commodore Read.

U. States Consulate,
Sandwich Islands, Oct. 29, 1839. }

SIR:—I have before me a communication from several individuals of the American mission at these islands, requesting of me any aid I can furnish you towards an investigation of the charges in which they were involved in the recent correspondence between an officer of the French navy and the authorities of this country.

It seems to me quite probable that a note of inquiry calling for a specification of charges and the grounds on which they rest, addressed officially by you to the French Consul, would evolve all the information that is desired, and put you in possession of all the opinions which induced Capt. Laplace to place the missionaries in a position so offensive to them.

The result of such an inquiry might be of service to our government, as well as a satisfaction to yourself; and the fact of such inquiry being made, would also serve to show to this community, both natives and foreigners, that those who conduct the naval forces sent abroad under the authority and to sustain the honor of the United States, are equally watchful for the interests of their fellow citizens, whatever may be their avocation, as those who hold similar commissions from other powers.

With every sentiment of respect,
I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

P. A. BRINSMADE.

To GEORGE C. READ, Esq.,
Comd'ng U. S. East India Squadron.

No. 8.

Commodore Read to the U. S. Consul.

U. Sates Frigate Columbia,
Honolulu, Oahu, Oct. 31, 1839.

SIR:—By your letter of the 29th instant received yesterday I am in-

formed that you "have before you a communication from several individuals of the American missionaries at these Islands requesting of you any aid you can furnish me towards an investigation of the charges in which they were involved in the recent correspondence between an officer of the French navy and the authorities of this country."

And you further state that it seems to you "quite probable that a note of inquiry, calling for a specification of charges and the grounds on which they rest, addressed by me to the French Consul would evolve all the information that is desired, and put me in possession of all the opinions which induced Capt. Laplace to place the missionaries in a position so offensive to them."

In reply it is my duty to inform you that all such applications, if deemed necessary, should be made by the Consul or by the American missionaries themselves, and that I must decline having any thing to do with the French Consul at this late hour, on the subject. Want of time, the risk attending the lying in these Roads, and the belief that it could answer no useful purpose are, if I had no other reasons for declining, sufficient to deter me from entering upon an investigation of charges which have existed from a period anterior to the visits of any of our men-of-war at these islands. Three weeks have elapsed since my arrival here. If specifications of charges be required of the French Consul, why were they not applied for long since? Surely the American missionaries did not entertain the belief that I would lie in this exposed Roadstead for an indefinite time to inquire into grievances which it is out of my power to redress. You know that had I received the provisions sent for to another island, it was my intention to have sailed on Wednesday last. And the reasons given in my letter of the 28th instant, were, I should think, ample to satisfy the American mission that it was from necessity, and not for want of inclination, that I declined taking up the matter at issue between their opponents and themselves.

Every day's detention in my present position admonishes me the more that I should leave this anchorage as soon as possible. And if the schooner does not arrive by tomorrow, I shall feel myself obliged to sail without the supply of provisions sent for.

In answering the remarks contained in the last paragraph of your letter, I must observe that however satisfactory such an investigation might be to my government and self, I cannot believe that it would change the opinions entertained by either friends or enemies. Those who conduct the naval forces of our government will always feel themselves in duty bound to protect the citizens of the United States abroad whatever may be their avocation; but I am equally certain that no step could be taken by me that would remove long standing and deep rooted prejudice.

If specifications of the charges exhibited against the American missionaries by Capt. Laplace can be obtained from the French Consul, I will deliver them to my government, with a suitably earnest request that they may be inquired into. But if you still desire that I shall remain to prosecute the investigation, you must find a harbor into which the ship can go, and lie in safety.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

GEO. C. READ,

Commanding U. S. East India Squadron.

To P. A. Brinsmade Esq.,
U. S. Consul, Oahu,
Sandwich Islands.

The United States Consul to Commodore Read.

United States Consulate, }
 Sandwich Islands, Oct. 31, 1839. }

SIR:—Yours of present date has this moment been handed to me and I hasten to say that I was aware when I addressed you on the 29th inst, of the difficulties and embarrassments that might attend an investigation in the form suggested by the Am. Missionaries, and I fully appreciate your objections to attempt a thorough inquiry, at this late hour, into the circumstances by which many of your fellow citizens at these Islands have been exposed to insult and outrage. I hope that you, also, will duly estimate the disadvantages which would attend any inquiries that might be instituted by me.

The opinion which I adopted when the *l'Arctique* was here remains unchanged, that inquiries into the proceedings of Capt. Laplace, so far as American interests were involved, to be most effective, should be originated at Washington; and, with that view, I have transmitted to the department of State, a circumstantial account of those proceedings. In that account will be found a general statement made by Capt. Laplace of offenses against his government, for which he held certain American citizens responsible. The parties implicated disclaimed all such responsibility, but owing to the peculiar state of the community, and the agitating circumstances under which the charges originated, they judged it expedient to bring their grievances before their government in the form of a memorial to Congress, in preference to any protest or remonstrance addressed to Capt. Laplace. Having adopted this decision to address their wrongs and petitions to the highest earthly power to which they could look, I had supposed that the matter would be left for the action of their government. When therefore they desired me to further their application to you for an inquiry into the *facts* connected with their relations to this government and to that of France, I believed it to be their purpose to put you in possession of such truth as would be useful to the government and people of their native country, and not their expectation that you would take the matter of redressing their wrongs from the hands to which they had so gravely committed it.

If it be impracticable for you to remain in the exposed situation of your ship "to inquire into grievances which it is out of your power to redress," it would "a fortiori" be inexpedient for me to pursue such an inquiry, for with yourself, "I am equally certain that no step could be taken by me that would remove long standing and deep rooted prejudice."

In my view, however, the removal of prejudice, the vindication of personal character or the effacing of any stigma that may have attached to professional avocation however desirable or gratifying it might be to all parties, neither you or myself can be called upon *officially* to undertake:—But when it is represented that essential interests are jeopardized and rights guaranteed by the highest powers of our government are invaded, and even the proud claim to American citizenship is denied, responsibility becomes serious, and indispensable, except it be obviated by uncontrollable necessity, and such a necessity seems by your statements, plainly to exist in your case. I hope however that every attention that may be due from our government to the individuals who have represented their injuries to you, will be promptly afforded; and that you will not only urge the subject upon the regards of the

department to which your official correspondence is addressed, but that you will also strongly present to the Commander of our naval forces on the Pacific station the need of the protection and countenance of a frequent visit of a ship of war at these islands.

You have had opportunity to learn much of the great and rapidly increasing value of American interest here, and in the view which you are pleased to take of the recent events that have transpired among us, it must be perfectly perceptible how liable all these interests are at every moment, to be put in imminent peril if not sacrificed.

I feel inexpressibly happy in view of the favorable termination of our long standing difficulties and misunderstandings between foreign residents and this government which has been effected by your persevering kindness and address; and I hope that the assurance may be gratifying to you that you will leave our community in apparently a better mood of feeling than has existed for several years.

Those of your fellow-citizens, whose object of living on these shores is rather to impart than acquire, will probably feel encouraged by the very friendly recognition and countenance you have afforded them; and I trust will be benefited by your counsels. I feel it due to them, in consideration of the peculiar relation in which they stand to this people, and in view of the correspondence which you have had with them, to enclose to you a copy of a letter recently received from His Majesty, in reply to inquiries I felt it necessary, for my own information and that of my government, to make.

Be pleased, Sir, to accept the assurances of the sentiments of
Respect and esteem, with which I remain, very truly,
Your most obedient servant,

P. A. BRINSMADE.

To GEO. C. READ, Esq.,
Commanding the U. S. E. I. Squadron.

No. 10.

The United States Consul to the Missionaries.

United States Consulate,
Sandwich Islands, Oct. 31, 1829. }

GENTLEMEN:—Your communication of the 26th instant, has been received. So soon as Commodore Read had disposed of engagements that were then occupying his time, I addressed him formally on the subject to which you solicited my attention; and that you may have the earliest and circumstantial information in regard to his views, I herewith transmit to you a copy of the correspondence had with him. By my second letter you will learn my views in respect to the propriety of agitating further the matter on which you feel aggrieved.

It seems due to the government whose protection you claim, that you should have unhesitating confidence in its wisdom, and that you should wait

patiently for its action upon a case in which it is understood you have seriously called for its interposition.

I remain, Gentlemen, very respectfully,

Your most Obt. Servt.,

P. A. BRINSMADE.

To Messrs, H. Bingham,
Gerrit P. Judd,
Levi Chamberlain,
Amos S. Cooke,
S. N. Castle,
Henry Dimond,
Horton O. Knapp,
L. Smith.

No. 11.

The Missionaries to Commodore Read.

Honolulu, November 1, 1839.

SIR:—Your communication of the 28th ult., was received on the afternoon of the 29th. As it seemed to require no answer, we have thus long delayed the acknowledgment of its receipt; and we will only say in relation to it, that we regret you find yourself unable at this time to institute a court of inquiry, and prosecute that investigation into the validity of the charges brought against the Mission, which we so much desire, and which we think the cause of truth demands.

It gives us pleasure to embrace this opportunity to bear testimony to the kindness and urbanity which have uniformly marked your intercourse, & that of Capt. Wyman, and the officers of the squadron under your command, with us; and it is our ardent desire that wherever the stars and stripes of our Union are unfurled — whether upon the sea or upon the land, whether amongst savage, barbarous, or civilized nations — the blessings of peace may be enjoyed, and similar testimony be justly awarded to the deportment of her highly favored sons. We regret not only on our own account that causes beyond your control impel you to hasten your departure, but because of the salutary influence which we have reason to believe a more prolonged stay would exert upon the government and native population of these islands.

Allow us, in bidding you farewell, to tender you our best wishes for your prosperity; and our prayer in your behalf is, that by the blessing of Him who rules the raging flood, and can say to the angry sea, "Peace, be still," and be obeyed, you and those who sail with you, may be safely wafted over the bosom of the deep, to the shores of our own beloved country; that you may be fitted and prepared, not only for the enjoyment of the happiness of the life that now is, but of that which is to come.

With sentiments of high consideration, we have the

Honor to subscribe ourselves, very respectfully,

Your fellow-citizens, and obedient servants,

H. BINGHAM,
L. SMITH,
GERRIT P. JUDD,
HENRY DIMOND,

SAMUEL N. CASTLE,
LEVI CHAMBERLAIN,
AMOS S. COOKE,
HORTON O. KNAPP,

To GEO. C. READ, Esq., Commanding
the U. S. East India Squadron, Hona-
lulu Roads, Sandwich Islands.

We are unauthorizèd by the gentlemen who ordered the publication of the article and correspondence, to make any comments; and shall therefore refrain from doing so, although some remarks seem necessary to a clear understanding of the views therein expressed. It seems proper to add a few words of explanation, which we do upon our own responsibility; and first, in the Commodore's letter to the Consul. He says, "If the specifications of charges be required of the French Consul, why were they not applied for long since." The answer is; The mission supposed that the proper source from which those inquiries should originate would be the court appointed to investigate, and it will be seen by the correspondence that an application for the institution of such a court was made on the 16th, and renewed on the 24th. Second; he speaks of the reasons given in his letter of the 28th to the mission as being ample for not entering into the inquiry. Said letter was not received until the 29th, and as the letter of the mission to the Consul requesting him to further their application, was of an earlier date, it will be seen that those reasons, whatever they were, could not be appreciated by the mission, as they were unknown to them. Third, the letter of the Consul to the mission, inclosing copies of the correspondence, was not received until some days subsequent to date, hence the reason why some points in the communication of the Commodore to the Consul were not noticed in their letter to him, (the Commodore,) of Nov. 2nd, as they would seem to require to be, being supposed by the date of the Consul's communication inclosing the correspondence, to be in possession of the mission while they were not; and fourth, it may be inferred from a remark in the Consul's letter to the missionaries that they sought an investigation with an earnestness which amounted to impatience. He doubtless did not intend to convey this idea. The public will judge from the documents with what degree of urgency the missionaries pressed their case. They desired the investigation, supposing it to be the best time, and that a properly authorized person was on the ground to prosecute it. They

are not aware of feeling any degree of impatience on the subject.

The intercourse of the commander and officers of the squadron with the various members of the mission present at Honolulu, during its stay, was of the most agreeable and friendly kind, as will be seen by letter No. 11.

S. N. CASTLE.

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